He is within and two reuerend Fathers,
Diuinely bent to meditation,
And in no worldly suite would he be mou'd,
To draw him from his holy exercise.

Buc. Returne good *Catesby* to thy Lord againe,
Tell him my selfe, the Maior and Citizens,
In deepe designes and matters of great moment,
No lesse importing then our generall good,
Are come to haue some conference with his grace.

Cat. Ile tell him what you say my Lord. *Exit.*

Buc. A ha my Lord, this Prince is not an *Edward*:
He is not lulling on a leawd day bed,
But on his knees at meditation:
Not dallying with a brace of Curtizans,
But meditating with two deepe Diuines:
Not sleeping to ingrosse his idle body,
But praying to inrich his watchfull soule,
Happy were *England*, would this gracious prince
Take on himselfe the soueraignety thereon,
But sure I feare we shall neuer winne him to it.

Ma. Marry God forbid his grace should say vs nay.

Enter Catesby.

Buc. I feare he will, how now *Catesby*,
What sayes your Lord?

Cat. My Lord he wonders to what end you haue assembled
Such troopes of Citizens to speake with him,
His grace not being warnd thereof before:
My lord, he feares you meane no good to him.

Buc. Sory I am my noble cousen should
Suspect me that I meane no good to him,
By heauen I come in perfect loue to him,
And so once more returne and tell his grace:
When holy and deuout religious men,
Are at their beads, tis hard to daw them hence,
So sweete is zealous contemplation.

Enter Rich, and two Bishops aloft.

Mai. See where he stands betweene two Clergimen.

Buc. Two props of vertue for a Christian Prince:
To stay him from the fall of vanity,

Famous

Famous *Plantagenet*, most gracious
Lend fauorable eares to my request
And pardon vs the interruption
Of thy deuotion and right Christian

Glo. My Lord, there needs no such
I rather doe beseech you pardon me,
Who earnest in the seruice of my G
Neglect the visitation of my friends
But leauing this, what is your grace
Buc. Euen that I hope which pleas
And all good men of this vngouernd
Glo. I doe suspect, I haue done so
That seeme disgracious in the Cities
And that you come to reprehend my
Buc. You haue my Lord: would
At our intreaties to amend that fault
Glo. Else wherefore breath I in a
Buc. Then know it is your fault th
The Supreame Seate, the throane
The Scepter office of your Ancesto
The lineall glory of your royall Ho
To the corruption of a blemisht st
Whilest in the mildenesse of your s
Which heere we waken to your C
This noble Ile doth want his prope
Her face defac't with scars of infam
And almost shouldred in this swall
Of blinde forgetfulnesse and darke
Which to recouer we hartily solicit
Your gracious selfe to take on you
Not as *Protector*, Steward, Substit
Nor lowly factor for an others gai
But as successiuely from blood to
Your right of birth your Emperie
For this consorted with the Citize
Your worshipfull and very louing
And by there vehement instigatio
In this iust suite come I to mone yo
Glo. I know not whither to depa

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE *Richard III* (STC 22320) LONDON, 1629 UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURG (JA 37